

Serial No. 09/656,289 filed Sept. 6, 2000
Amendment of September 8, 2003
in Response to Office Action of March 7, 2003

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a cover for the nipple of a baby bottle, said cover comprising a button at the top of said cover;
said button being a sealing element for sealing a hole at the top of the nipple;
said button being integrated into said cover, such that liquid cannot emerge from the nipple
into the surrounding environment while said cover is attached to the baby bottle.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element comprises a button located at the top of said cover wherein liquid cannot emerge into the
surrounding environment even if the baby bottle is shaken.

3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said button is round.

4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element comprises an approximately dome-like bottom surface.

5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element comprises a rounded bottom surface, said rounded bottom surface comprising a circumference, said sealing element comprising an annular flange around said circumference.

6. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said cover is dimensioned

Serial No. 09/656,289 filed Sept. 6, 2000

Amendment of September 8, 2003

in Response to Office Action of March 7, 2003

such that said sealing element compresses the nipple of the baby bottle when said cover is attached to the baby bottle.

7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said cover is dome shaped.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a baby bottle.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a cap for a baby bottle, said cover fitting onto said cap.

10. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing icon is a different color than said cover.

11. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element comprises a round upper surface.

12. (Cancelled) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element is an integral part of said cover.

13. (Cancelled) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element is inserted into said cover.

14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element comprises an upper surface, and said cover comprises an upper surface, said upper surface of said sealing element being flush with said upper surface of said cover.

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sealing element comprises a bottom surface, said cover being dimensioned such that said bottom surface

Serial No. 09/656,289 filed Sept. 6, 2000
Amendment of September 8, 2003
in Response to Office Action of March 7, 2003

compresses the nipple of a baby bottle when said cover is attached to the baby bottle.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a cover for the nipple of a baby bottle,

said cover comprising a button at the top of said cover; ✓

said button being a sealing element for sealing a hole at the top of the nipple;

said button being integrated into said cover, such that liquid cannot emerge from the nipple

into the surrounding environment while said cover is attached to the baby bottle, even if the ✓

baby bottle is shaken;

wherein said button of said cover has a bottom surface; ✓

said bottom surface of said button being in contact with the nipple whenever the cover is affixed
to the baby bottle,

said cover being dimensioned such that said bottom surface of said button of said cover
compresses the nipple of the baby bottle when said cover is affixed to the baby bottle; ✓

wherein said button comprises an upper surface, and said cover comprises an upper surface;

said upper surface of said button being flush with said upper surface of said cover;

and wherein said bottom surface of said button is provided with a curvature where said bottom
surface contacts the nipple.

Claims 17-50 (withdrawn).

Serial No. 09/656,289 filed Sept. 6, 2000
Amendment of September 8, 2003
in Response to Office Action of March 7, 2003

51.

(Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

(a) a baby bottle, said baby bottle comprising a nipple and a cover for said nipple, said nipple comprising a top with an orifice in said top, said cover including a button at the top of said cover, said button comprising a sealing element therein for sealing said orifice at said top of said baby bottle nipple, said button being integrated into said cover, such that liquid cannot emerge from the nipple into the surrounding environment while said cover is attached to the baby bottle;

(b) said baby bottle further comprising a cap and a handle, wherein said cap screws onto said baby bottle, and wherein said cap contains a recess therein for receiving a portion of said handle in a mating relationship.

52.

(Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

(a) a baby bottle, said baby bottle comprising a nipple and a cover for said nipple, said nipple comprising a top with an orifice in said top, said cover comprising a button at the top of said cover, said button comprising including a sealing element therein for sealing said orifice at said top of said baby bottle nipple, said button being integrated into said cover, such that liquid cannot emerge from the nipple into the surrounding environment while said cover is attached to the baby bottle;

(b) said baby bottle further comprising a cap and a handle, wherein said cap screws onto said baby bottle, and wherein said cap contains a recess therein for receiving a portion of said handle

Serial No. 09/656,289 filed Sept. 6, 2000
Amendment of September 8, 2003
in Response to Office Action of March 7, 2003

in a mating relationship;

(c) said baby bottle further comprising a skirt, said skirt comprising a protective element for placement on the bottom of said baby bottle to protect against shocks to the bottom of said baby bottle.

53. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said apparatus further comprises a baby bottle.

54. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said button is round.

55. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said cover is dome shaped, and said button comprises a round upper surface and an approximately dome-like bottom surface.

56. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said bottom surface of said button comprises a circumference, said button comprising an annular flange around said circumference.

57. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 55, wherein said bottom surface of said button comprises a circumference, said button comprising an annular flange around said circumference.

58. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said cover is dome shaped.

59. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said sealing icon is a different color than said cover.

60. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 51, wherein said button of said cover has a bottom surface, said bottom surface of said button being in contact with the nipple whenever the cover is affixed to the baby bottle, said cover being dimensioned such that said bottom surface of said

Serial No. 09/656,289 filed Sept. 6, 2000
Amendment of September 8, 2003
in Response to Office Action of March 7, 2003

button of said cover compresses the nipple of the baby bottle when said cover is affixed to the baby bottle, and wherein said bottom surface of said button is provided with a curvature where said bottom surface contacts the nipple.

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61. (New) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 52, wherein said button of said cover has a bottom surface, said bottom surface of said button being in contact with the nipple whenever the cover is affixed to the baby bottle, said cover being dimensioned such that said bottom surface of said button of said cover compresses the nipple of the baby bottle when said cover is affixed to the baby bottle, and wherein said bottom surface of said button is provided with a curvature where said bottom surface contacts the nipple.